

Forest Order No. 05-15-52-16-04
SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST
Florence Spillway Closure

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Sierra National Forest. This Order is effective from June 4, 2016, until June 20, 2016.

1. Going into or being upon National Forest System lands within the Florence Spillway Closure Area. The boundary of the Florence Spillway Closure Area begins at the northeast intersection of Forest Road No. 7S01 and 7S370, then continues due northeast to its intersection with the John Muir Wilderness boundary, then continues due northeast, east, and south along the John Muir Wilderness Boundary to its intersection with the high-water mark of Florence Lake, then continues northwest along the high-water mark of Florence Lake to its intersection with the northwest end of Florence Dam, then continues north back to the starting point, as shown on the attached map. 36 CFR 261.53(e).
2. Being on any National Forest System road within the Florence Spillway Closure Area, as shown on the attached map. 36 CFR 261.54(e).

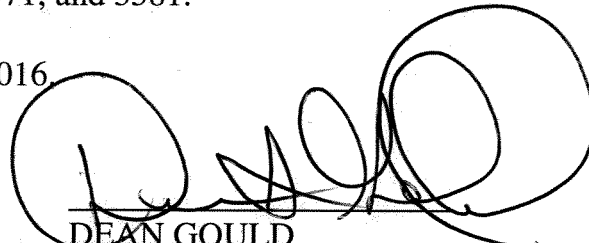
Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited actor omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions contained in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571, and 3581.

Executed in Clovis, California on June 3, 2016.


DEAN GOULD
Forest Supervisor



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service


Sierra National Forest

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File Code: 2670
Route To: File

Date: June 3, 2016

Subject: Forest Order No. 05-15-52-16-04 – Florence Spillway Closure

From: Dean Gould, Forest Supervisor  -

This document explains my rationale and the regulatory basis for implementing a closure order for the Florence Spillway area on the Sierra National Forest.

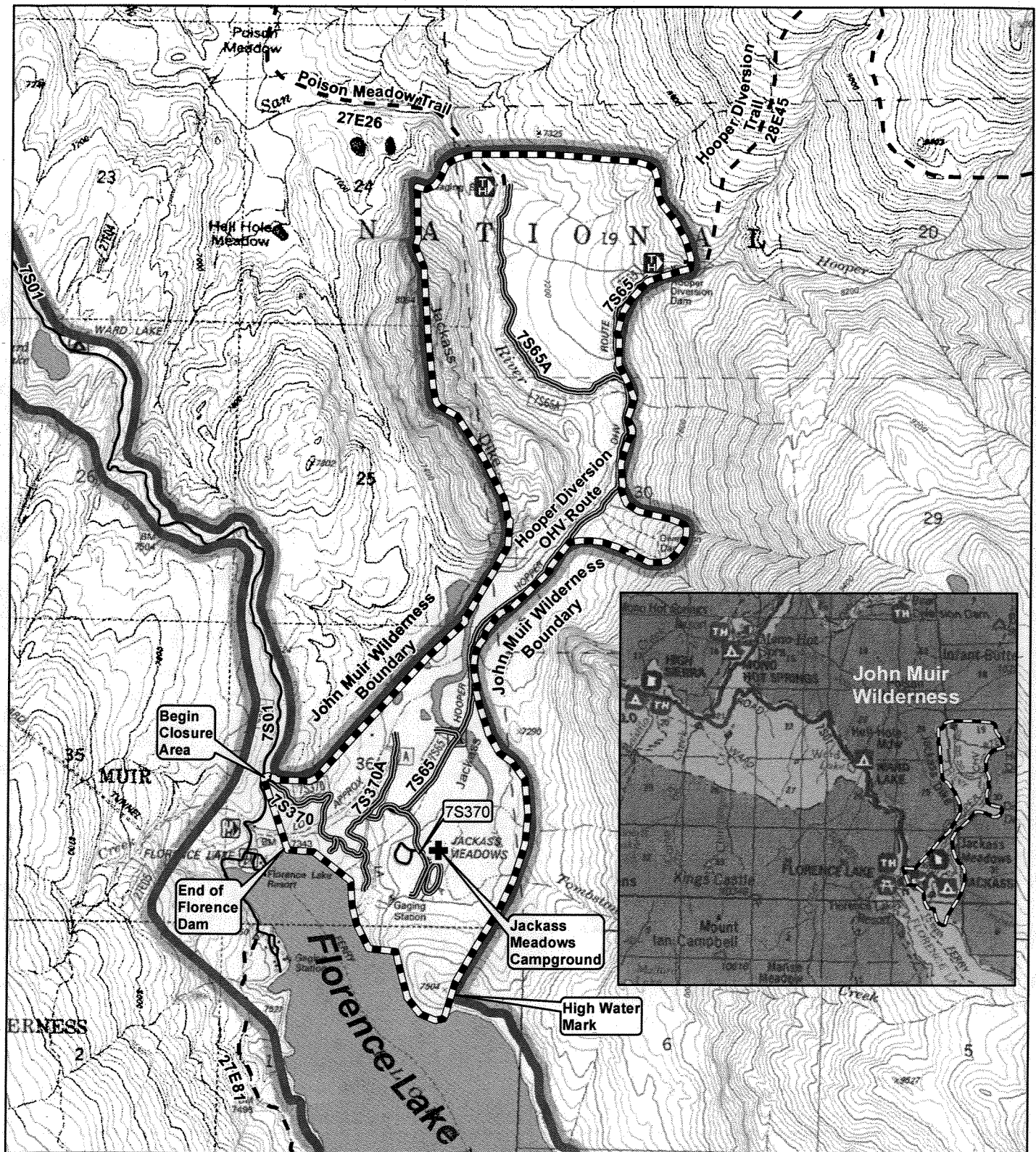
The purpose of this Forest Order is to protect public safety due to the large discharge of water from the Florence spillway. Discharge is expected to range from 300 cubic feet per second to approximately 1,000 cubic feet per second. This range of flows will continue for the next couple of weeks. Based on the latest weather forecasts, it appears high temperatures will result in high inflows to the lake and anticipated discharge from the spillway could result in serious injury or death to a person. During this time, the Forest Service expects short periods of uncontrolled "break spill." This occurs when water flows over the spillway instead of through it. This would occur as a result of the natural daily change in inflows as temperatures and the resulting snow melt fluctuate between day and night.

Once runoff has slowed down and inflows decrease, lake elevation can be controlled with a diversion tunnel. The situation will be evaluated daily and the closure will be terminated as soon as it is safe to do so.

I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act. This action falls within the category identified in 36 CFR 220.6(d)(1) - prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety - and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. I have determined that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.



05-15-52-16-04
Sierra National Forest
Florence Spillway Closure



- Closed Campground
- Closure Area
- Trails
- Road
- Closed Roads
- Wilderness Boundary
- Trailhead

0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Miles

